

Report of the Site Visit of  
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta's (CHOA) Hughes  
Spalding  
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By  
Vijay Ramnath, Jayaraman

Observations

- CHOA's Hughes Spalding is the first hospital which was built for meeting the medical needs of the increasing African-American community in Atlanta.
- CHOA's Hughes Spalding used to serve both for the children and adult care initially.
- Integrating ER, Primary care and Disease specific care is the primary goal of the future Hughes Spalding Hospital.
- ER rooms are busy during night times and the Primary care facility during the days.
- 3 days is the average length of stay of a patient.

Ideas

- A rapid transit system between the Grady's and Hughes Spalding tunnel could reduce the delay time of the trauma care patients and thereby improve productivity. The same could be used to buffer patients when any of these hospitals are full or could be used to relocate patients during the hospital renovation stages.
- Each of the patient room for the infants should become "playrooms" instead of keeping the playrooms separately. This will make the infants "feel home" and efforts must be made to match each of these rooms for the kids to their actual homes.
- Since most of the patients coming there to Hughes are through the MARTA system, a special shuttle could be arranged from each of these stations to the hospital. This will avoid unnecessary delays for the patients, reduce the traffic congestion surrounding the hospital and may promote people to use the public transportation.

- Crowd and the traffic could be greatly controlled by the use of Electronic appointments with minute-to-minute details. This would greatly reduce unnecessary people traffic inside the hospital and also heavy investments towards architectural solutions. This requires lot of prediction and Industrial and mathematical expertise which are easily available and readily adoptable.
- Proper hand-washing facilities could be incorporated by providing mobile hand-washes. This mobile facility must be kept in appropriate places so that they reduce the risk of any infection.

#### Conversations:

- Prof.Craig Vs Jaime et al: This conversation was mainly about the tunnel between the two hospitals. Jaime was astonished to hear that the corpses from the Hughes were actually transported through the tunnel to the other end. The same tunnel is being used for bringing the trauma patients. Is this a good sign?
- Mr.X (the architect) Vs Lavana : Lavana was concerned with the working hours of the hospital and the time of renovation and we were all surprised to know that they both actually happen at the same time. It is a great challenge for the design engineers and architects to make that happen without affecting the normal schedule.
- Ms.Julia Vs all: This conversation was about where Hughes Spalding stands compared to other hospitals in Atlanta. She says that Hughes is the only place with pediatricians from the Emory Medical School and this means that they have got the best cardiac and neurology care available and they spend a lot for these doctors.